

Remarks

Claims 57-62, 64-77, 79-83, and 87-89 are pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 57, 58, and 68-73. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the subject specification and in the claims as originally filed. Entry and consideration of the amendments presented herein is respectfully requested. Accordingly, claims 57-62, 64-77, 79-83, and 87-89 are currently before the Examiner. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

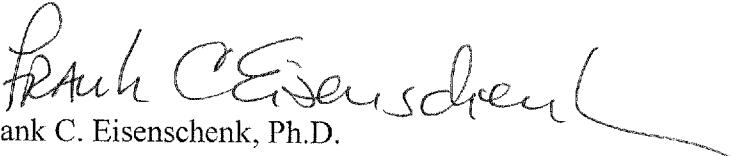
At the outset, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Mertz for contacting the undersigned to discuss claim amendments for placing this matter in condition for allowance. In this teleconference, Examiner Mertz suggested an amendment to the claims such that this application could be allowed and requested the filing of a supplemental amendment in view of the number of instances this phrase appears in the instant claim set. Accordingly, this supplemental amendment is being filed pursuant to that teleconference and provides for the deletion of the phrase “the activity of” within various claims. It is the understanding of the undersigned that this supplemental amendment, in conjunction with the previously filed response, appears to place this application in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

It should be understood that the amendments presented herein have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion and should not be construed as an indication of Applicants’ agreement with or acquiescence in the Examiner’s position. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the invention(s) disclosed in the subject application, including any subject matter canceled or not pursued during prosecution of the subject application, in a related application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,


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